

ACUPUNCTURIST - R.S. 37:1356-1360

PART IV. PRACTICE OF ACUPUNCTURE

§1356. Definitions

As used in this Part the following definitions shall apply:

A. "Acupuncture" means treatment by means of mechanical, thermal or electrical stimulation effected by the insertion of needles at a point or combination of points on the surface of the body predetermined on the basis of the theory of the physiological interrelationship of body organs with an associated point or combination of points, or the application of heat or electrical stimulation to such point or points, for the purpose of inducing anesthesia, relieving pain, or healing diseases, disorders and dysfunctions of the body, or achieving a therapeutic or prophylactic effect with respect thereto.

The practice of acupuncture shall be construed to be the practice of medicine as defined by R.S. 37:1261.

B. "Acupuncturist" means an individual certified to practice acupuncture pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 37:1357.

C. "Board" means the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

D. "Physician" means an individual licensed to practice medicine in Louisiana.

E. "Supervising physician" means a physician who exercises supervision and control over an acupuncturists' assistant when said assistant is engaged in the practice of acupuncture.

F. "Acupuncturist's assistant" means an individual certified by the Board of Medical Examiners pursuant to R.S. 37:1358.

Added by Acts 1975, No. 665, §1.

§1357. Practice of traditional Chinese acupuncture; certification

The board shall certify as an acupuncturist of traditional Chinese acupuncture a physician licensed to practice medicine in Louisiana who has successfully completed either of the following:

(1) Six months' training in traditional Chinese acupuncture in a school or clinic approved by the board.

(2) Three hundred credit hours of continuing medical education in acupuncture designated as category one continuing medical education hours by the American Medical Association.

Added by Acts 1975, No. 665, §1; Acts 2001, No. 849, §1.

§1358. Acupuncturist's assistants

A. The board shall certify as an acupuncturist's assistant any of the following:

(1) An individual to practice in Louisiana who has successfully completed thirty-six months' training in a school or clinic of traditional Chinese acupuncture approved by the board.

(2) An individual who has been appointed or employed at a licensed or accredited Louisiana hospital, medical school, or clinic to perform acupuncture for research purposes.

(3) An individual who has successfully passed the certification examination given by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

B. The acupuncturist's assistant must be employed by and work under the physical direction, control, and supervision of a physician certified by the board to practice acupuncture and must perform such duties, services, and functions assigned by said employer at a place of employer's practice unless said duties, services, and functions are performed in the physical presence of said employer.

Added by Acts 1975, No. 665, §1; Acts 2001, No. 849, §1.

§1359. Annual report by board to legislature; administrative data

The board shall establish procedures and systems for the compilation, transmission, correlation, storage, and analysis of data relative to the administration of acupuncture in this state and shall report annually to the legislature concerning the status of acupuncture practice in the state beginning February 1, 1976.

Added by Acts 1975, No. 665, §1.

§1360. Guidelines for certification and practice

Pursuant to the provisions established by this Part, the board shall formulate rules and regulations that it deems necessary to regulate the certification of acupuncturists and acupuncturists' assistants and the practice of traditional Chinese acupuncture in Louisiana.

Added by Acts 1975, No. 665, §1.